

MOVING PLATFORM

How People Travel in the Large Cities

EVERYBODY IS IN A HURRY

A New System Devised That Will Carry 75,000 People an Hour and Without Danger or Risk of Accidents or Unnecessary Delays.

It will probably be many years before Astoria will have the latest and most approved methods of traveling. In this day and age, everybody is in a hurry and transportation companies are devising means to accommodate them. The manner of travel in New York will be of interest to many.

The rapid transit commission has, after three years of deliberation, accepted plans for and recommended the construction of a moving platform subway in Thirty-fourth street, those interested in the development of transportation facilities in this city are looking forward to the time when it shall be in actual operation. Though small systems of this type have been operated successfully at the world's fair in Chicago and in Paris, the line recommended to be built in Thirty-fourth street will be the first really practical test afforded the system in an American city.

Though the term "moving platform" is suggestive of all kinds of untried dangers and of pitfalls without number for the aged and unsteady of foot, it is really the simplest thing imaginable if the explanations of the promoters of the idea are to be accepted.

"The idea of walking," they exclaim, "when for 5 cents one can get there by simply sitting still! The subway! With all those intricate stairs to climb and breaking cars to fall under! No! No! Wait for the moving platform!"

There no guard will yell in one's ear: "Step lively, please!" Coat tails will not be caught in slamming doors. No one will take a "local" and become profane because it is not an "express." There will be no dreary waits for trains. It will be just too fine for anything; just a case of step aboard and let the platform do the rest. And if any dissatisfaction arises; if one does not think he or she is getting full value for money invested, there is always the stationary platform. Get off and walk.

Strictly speaking, the moving platform will be really several platforms all moving at the same time, but at different rates of speed. There are to be four distinct platforms moving in both directions. On entering the new subway, which will be done by means of escalators, the traveler will land on a stationary platform. Running by this like the wash of a brook against its shores will be a platform two feet wide going at the rate of three miles an hour. Within this will be another platform of the same width moving at the rate of six miles an hour, and going at the rate of nine miles an hour just beyond this the main platform, hour. This platform will be six feet wide, and, unlike the smaller platforms, will be fitted with cross seats, each capable of accommodating four persons, room being left on the other side for a runaway. The stationary platform will also be so arranged that it can be turned into a moving platform for night use or at times when any accident befalls the regular moving platforms. The mechanism of the system is so simple, however, that no serious breakdowns are looked for. The wheels producing the motion will be fixed at regular distances beneath the platform, which will roll over them like a belt over a pulley.

The estimated cost of the system will be \$5,999,999 and it is asserted that when in full operation it can accommodate 75,000 persons an hour. The system will connect the new Pennsylvania railroad station by a subway with the ferry at East Thirty-fourth street, and may be extended to the West Thirty-fourth street ferry.

NON COMPOS MENTIS.

Threatening Letters to Emperor Sent by Lunatic.

New York, March 17.—The mystery of the letters addressed to the emperor by revolutionaries which were constantly found in the palace of Tsarskoe-Selo has been solved, according to a Herald dispatch from St. Petersburg. The solution came about through the arrest of a page who was examined a few days ago on complaints of his fellow pages and declared to be mentally disordered.

Russian Squadron.

Antananarivo, Madagascar, March 17.—The Russian second Pacific squadron left Noesi Be this afternoon. Its destination is not known.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Duncan Shanks of Olney was in the city yesterday.

Jos. H. Duffman of Sherwood is visiting in the city.

P. C. Warren of Warrenton is in the city on the jury.

F. M. Warren of Portland is in the city on business.

Henry Fleckenstein and wife of Portland are in the city.

O. H. Spaulding of Arlington is in the city on business.

E. W. Ward and wife of Olney were in the city yesterday.

A. G. Murray of Portland registered at the Central yesterday.

D. H. Lyon and wife of Grays river were in the city yesterday.

Dr. Thomas Ross of Portland is visiting his mother in this city.

H. R. Hoefler returned yesterday from a business trip to Portland.

C. E. Fairbanks of Grand Rapids, Mich., is registered at the Occident.

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W. E. Tallent and wife have returned from an extended visit in New York.

R. F. Stone of the J. K. Armbly Co was in the city yesterday on business.

C. S. Norris of New York, a prominent salmon dealer, is in the city on business.

C. E. Palmer, representing Blake, McFall Co. of Portland, returned home last evening.

John D. McGowan was over from McGowan's yesterday and is stopping at the Occident.

The Misses Anderson of Skamokawa were in the city yesterday and returned on the Vanguard.

Otto Schuman of Portland, who was a witness in the Allen libel suit, returned home last evening.

Church Notices.

Baptist church—S. M. Brumback, president of the McMinnville college, will speak at 11 a. m. in the interest of higher education. Let all that possibly can give him a hearing. All other services of the church will be as usual.

Norwegian and Danish M. E. church, Upper Astoria—Rev. Aug. Petersen, the pastor, will preach at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Young people's prayer meeting at 7 p. m.

No services or Sunday school at the First Lutheran church tomorrow. In a week, however, we will be able to hold services in the church. The pastor, Gustaf E. Rydquist, will preach at the Chadwell schoolhouse, Lewis and Clark, Sunday at 10:30, and at Youngs river in the afternoon at 2:30. Both services in English.

Methodist church—Morning service, sermon by the pastor, "Life Through Christ." Special music will be rendered by the choir. At the evening service the following numbers are on the program:

- Fear Not, O Israel Specker
Geo. C. Watkins and choir.
A Dream of Paradise Gray
Miss Margaret Bussey and choir.
Ave Maria Millard
Mrs. Geo. C. Watkins.
Hark, Hark, My Soul Shelly
James Vernor and Choir.
Gloria Dudley Buck

ALLEN LIBEL SUIT.

Case Will Probably Go to the Jury Today.

The case of the state of Oregon against B. F. Allen, charged with criminal libel on John Hahn, was called in the circuit court yesterday. The entire forenoon was consumed in securing a jury. The following jurors were accepted: F. M. Warren, A. E. Peterson, Robert Grant, J. W. Walker, R. V. Jones, Norris Staples, D. P. Airth, G. L. Hills, A. E. Minard, F. Preston, G. L. Colwell, Fred Moores.

The state presented its evidence in the afternoon, proving the publication of the article in the Astorian; the testimony of John Hahn denying the truth of the statements. The defense called B. F. Allen, who testified that he was offered money by Hahn to vote for Corbett for United States senator, and stated that the object of publishing the letter was because he did not think Hahn was a suitable person for postmaster at Astoria. About 25 witnesses, including the prominent bankers and merchants were put on the stand and testified that Allen's reputation for truth and veracity in the community was good. The court then adjourned until 9:30 o'clock this morning. It is thought the case will be given to the jury about noon.

Funeral Notice.

All members of Astoria Aeria F. O. E. are requested to assemble at Poh's undertaking parlors today at 5:30 p. m., to escort the remains of our late brother, Alex Glenn, to the Portland train. O. ANDERSON, E. C. FOSTER, Sec. President.

Try one drop of Schilling's Best lemon extract in half-a-glass of water.

Try how many drops of some other extract it takes to flavor as much.

At your grocer's; moneyback.

JAPANESE HONORED

Former Japanese Minister Kantaro Banqueted in New York

DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN

The Present Government of Japan Was Founded on That of the United States, Under Which the Japs Have Prospered and Grown.

New York, March 17.—Baron Kaneko Kantaro, formerly Japanese minister of justice, has been a guest of honor and one of the speakers at a dinner of the Unitarian Club of New York. Speaking of the development of the mind and life of Japan, he pointed out that in every department of Japanese life whether in industry, statesmanship, literature, education or war, there always come first a stage of blind and unquestioning imitation, later a stage of adaptation to peculiar Japanese needs and then originality of invention. As an example he cited the union of the ancient Japanese Shintoism with the grafted buddhism to form the political religion of Japan.

"When the present dynasty came to the throne with the restoration in 1868," he said, "the Japanese were indeed backward in material progress, but their minds and intellects were almost as fully developed as those of occidentals. 'Seek knowledge, discriminate and adopt the best,' was a principle of the new emperor and we tried to follow it.

"We looked to the United States soon after the advent of Commodore Perry, our introducer to western nations. Our government was formed on your plan. Dr. David Murray of New Jersey became our educational adviser. Our postal system and our customs service were formed by American citizens. Our army was modeled on the German army, but adapted to Japanese principles.

"One peculiarity of the Japanese mind is to form a policy for a century ahead and to meet with Anglo-Saxon practicality any difficulties that arise. And as we try to be practical I can assure you we shall never try to take the Philippines away from you, as some American recently said. Japan has too much gratitude for this country ever to make war upon it. Japan's great ambition is to engraft western science on eastern culture and to blend the occidental and oriental civilization into one."

The regular Sunday afternoon matinee will be given at the Star tomorrow, to which an admission fee of 5 cents will be charged.

CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT.

Reopened Under New Management. John Blasich has leased the California Restaurant and Oyster House and is now prepared to serve the public. The best oysters and meals in the city. Family trade supplied. Good cooks, polite waiters and prompt service.

LAST DAY

Of the great display of Woolens in the Piece

Come and get your Measure taken for your Spring and Summer suit

Sale Closes 5 p. m.

C. H. COOPER

The Leading House of Astoria

All Clothing Bought at WISE'S Pressed Free of Charge Whenever You Wish.

Fine Clothing



Fine clothing does not mean just a fine piece of goods or a fine pattern—the clothing made by Alfred Benjamin & Co., of New York and for which I am sole distributor in Astoria, is fine, because it is made by master tailors, designed by the highest salaried experts in the United States.

- The Cloth is Shrunk
The Seams are Protected
The Buttons Won't Come Off
The Collar is Hand Felled
The Shoulders are Hand Built
The Button Holes are Hand Made

Every detail is looked after and examined by specially trained men and the result is

A Superior Garment A Satisfied Customer

Most anybody can sell pretty fair clothes nowadays, but only one firm in each city has the distinction of handling "BENJAMIN" CORRECT CLOTHES for men.

Herman Wise

The Reliable Clothier

Gruff Policeman—Look here, young feller—what are you hanging around here for?

Loiter—I'm waiting for the people to go to bed so I can break into that house.

Gruff Policeman—Oh, excuse me—I thought you were only a taxpayer.

A new lot of Australian lump coal just received. There is no fuel so convenient, satisfactory and economical as first class coal. Australian coal burns freely with little ash and no clinkers. You can have it stacked or in lumps. Free delivery. Ring up phone 1961. ELMORE & CO.

S. A. GIMRE

Has always in stock a fine assortment of

Boots and Shoes

BALL BRAND RUBBER BOOTS.

Call and See. Bond Street.

CENTRAL MEAT MARKET

G. W. Morton and John Fahrman, Proprietors. CHOICEST FRESH AND SALT MEATS. — PROMPT DELIVERY 542 Commercial St. Phone Main 321.



heading we wish to call your attention to our

Window Display of Office Supplies

"Time Savers"—have a look—come in and let us show you goods and quote you prices. If you are sending out of town—then we can save you money. If you want something you don't see in window we will get it for you cheaper than you can get it yourself.

J. N. GRIFFIN

Benefit Ball

to be given by the

United - Finnish Brotherhood, LODGE NO. 2.

AT ASTOR - HALL Saturday Evening,

MARCH 18, 1905,

Proceeds of this ball go to the Widows and Children's Fund of Lodge No. 8 of Burnett, Wash.

Tickets 50c. Ladies Free.